

March 15th, 2006

Volume 1, Issue 1



### Project Schedule

**March 15<sup>th</sup>**

#### **PHASE I**

Community Meeting &  
Project Introduction

**April/May**

Animas River Walk

**April**

Collections of  
Mountains, Water &  
Memories—Animas  
River Scrapbook

**May**

Humanities + Arts +  
Sciences Workshop

**June**

Animas River Celebration  
& River Clean Up

**June**

Community Meeting  
& Presentation

#### **PHASE II**

Draft Restoration and Re-  
development Assessment

**June-July**

#### **PHASE III**

Draft Funding Plan

**July**

Draft Revitalization  
Plan Released for  
Public Comment

**August**

Final Plan Meeting &  
Celebration

## *Animas River Corridor Revitalization Plan*

The project will develop a Revitalization Plan for an approximate 2 mile segment of the Animas River that passes through the town of Silverton, Colorado. San Juan County, Alpine Environmental Services, Animas River Stakeholders Group, and Mountain Studies Institute will partner to provide the county support in the planning process. The Animas River Corridor Plan process will include a series of public meetings to involve community members and obtain feedback on revitalization and recreational uses, incorporate technical information on riparian ecology and hydrology, and produce an Animas River Restoration and Recreation Reuse Plan for guiding development of the river corridor. The goals of the plan are for county residents to de-

velop a vision for the corridor that incorporates economic renewal and the development of recreational amenities that could include new trails, fish habitat improvements, a water park, and other economic

opportunities based upon ecologically sound restoration activities. The process will build upon existing planning documents such as the 1998 San Juan County & Town of Silverton Master Plan and the 2004 Silverton Area Trails Plan.



*Animas Valley, circ. 1890's*

SOURCE:

[www.photonwest.org](http://www.photonwest.org)

## *Project Goals & Objectives*

The purpose of this project is to create a community vision to guide clean up, revitalization and reuse of a two-mile section of the Animas River Corridor that incorporates Silverton's mining history, recognizes our mountain community spirit, and respects the natural beauty of the Animas River. The project has three phases: (I) create a community vision for a Revitalization Plan, (II) conduct a Remediation and Restoration Activity Assessment, and (III) research Funding Opportunities to support the Revitalization Plan.

**Specifically, the project objectives are:**

- Create a master plan for revitalization, recreation and restoration of the corridor,
- Develop trails and other amenities for recreation in the area for both visitors and residents,
- Restore wetlands and riparian habitat along the corridor, and
- Clean up the old Town Dump Site.

## *Ways To Contribute to the Animas Corridor Revitalization Plan*

*Do you have ideas? Would you like to help with an event? Please let us know.*

**Animas River Walk:** Join us for a walking tour of the Animas River Corridor to visit the Revitalization Plan focus areas. Walking the river banks and project area will enable us to take a closer look at the river as it is now, tell stories of the river as we remember it, and examine the different historic, ecological and social connections along the way. Mini-presentations will highlight the many assets, opportunities and challenges that wind through our project site. Refreshments will be provided. Date TBD.

### **Collections of Mountains, Water and Memories—**

**Animas River Scrapbook:** Do you have a favorite memory, picture or memento that reminds you of the Animas River? Would you like to contribute a poem, map, drawing or essay of what the Animas River corridor means to you? We are hoping to create a collection of community memories and creative expressions that will root the Revitalization Plan in community values for the Animas riverscape.

### **Humanities + Arts + Sciences Workshop—**

**Bringing together the pieces:** To synthesize the many different alternatives for the project, you are invited to a design workshop to brainstorm potential ways to combine art, science and the humanities into new recreational and economic assets for San Juan County. Date TBD.

### **Animas River Celebration & Clean Up—June:**

Roll up your sleeves and dive in to the Animas River Celebration and Clean Up. The weekend will begin with an opening and reception for the Animas River Scrapbook, artist contributions, historic exhibits and project work to date. Then Saturday morning, help to clean up debris from the river banks and the Old Town Dump Site. Free raft trips will be provided for volunteers, along with a raffle of prizes for all who contribute. Sponsored by the Animas River Stakeholders Group. Tentative date: Saturday, June 17th.

## *EPA Brownfields Mine-scarred Lands Initiative*

“to enable a community to “take back the land” and make it not only useful and productive, but something to call their own— a space or structure that is unique to their community...”

[www.epa.gov/brownfields/](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/)

The Mine Scarred Lands Initiative is an extension of the Brownfields Federal Partnership chaired by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The mission of the group is to foster the clean up and sustainable revitalization of mine-scarred lands and affected communities. The EPA defines mine-

scarred lands (MSL) as lands, associated waters, and surrounding watersheds where extraction, beneficiation or processing of ores and minerals (including coal) has occurred. Many MSL lands affect both privately- and publicly-owned lands and involve a complex of economic, social and environmental issues.

## *Animas Corridor Revitalization Project Team*

For suggestions, comments or more information, please contact one of our project team:

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